

## REMARKS

Claim 1 has been broadened to its originally filed form. The method claims 1-3 and 5-12 have been amended to not recite "step", thereby avoiding the possible argument of step-plus-function language. Claims 8, 12, 18, and 21 have been amended to recite other embodiments of the invention supported in the Specification as filed. Finally, the claims have otherwise been amended to correct antecedent basis and obvious grammatical problems, without narrowing the scope of the claims.

Applicants continue to submit that the art rejection of the Final Office Action is improper, and hereby respectfully request the courtesy of a telephone interview with the undersigned before issuance of the next Office action. The undersigned is a new attorney of record and, although having carefully reviewed the file history, cannot understand how the claim language, for example in amended claim 1, of "determining whether an e-mail message in the consolidated e-mail storage has been deleted from the external e-mail server, and if so, then deleting the e-mail message from the consolidated e-mail storage", reads on Fig. 12, col. 12, line 20 to col. 13, line 15, and col. 15, lines 25-67 of U.S. Patent No. 5,961,590 issued to Mendez, et al.; or how it reads on col. 2, line 26 to col 3., line 2, col. 4, line 10 to col. 5, line 9, and col. 5, line 64 to col. 6, line 20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,018,762 issued to Brunson, et al.

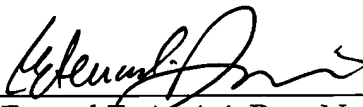
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.

02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on November 15, 2004.

  
Margaux Rodriguez November 15, 2004